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Locker room incident

1 message

[redacted] Wed, Oct 1, 2025 at 11:23 AM

To: Kristin Ward <kward@smithfield-ps.org>

Wednesday, Oct. 12 about 10:30 AM - I spoke with [redacted] about an alleged hazing incident, which took place on Monday afternoon, in the SHS locker room, before football practice. The incident allegedly involved this student being locked in the bathroom for a period of time and also that at least one anti semitic comment was made and directed to him. This student admitted that some of his teammates did in fact lock him in the bathroom. He described the incident as a "joke". He also reported that he injured his wrist while banging on the door to be let out. He said that he was locked in the bathroom for approximately 5 minutes before they let him out. He reported that the incident was over at that point and did not continue further.

This student also denied that any anti semitic comments were made or directed to him by any of his teammates. He insisted that he would report it if any anti semitic comments were made to him.

[redacted]

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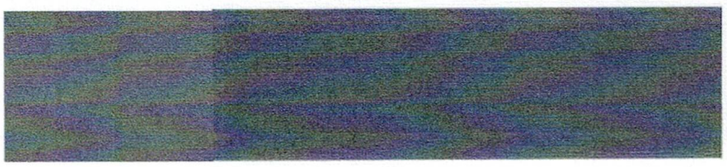

- *Every coach should be looking out for every student athlete on the team.*

- 10/14/2025- [redacted]
- 10/16/2025-
  - [redacted]
- 10/16/2025- Meeting with Holocaust Education Center about an education plan to move forward from this football situation. A number of things were discussed, we shared the situation and that although the conduct was corroborated, no one other than the victim stated they heard an anti-semetic remark. The discussed the following options:
  - Units for teachers around the book Night
  - The teen program, Rachel's Challenge 10/20 (6:45-7:45)
  - Students could work with a survivors family 3x's a month
  - Leadership training for captains of every sport
  - Partnering with Brown's Blue Square Ambassador
  - A holocaust unit (previously taught in ELA) with SS and ELA.
  - Maybe a community night/education
  - Class meetings with Lillian re: helping to accept others

  Where do we start?- Book a meeting with Lillian and the football team.
- 10/21/2025- Meeting with Lillian and the football team re: her parents journey. After her presentation, the principal spoke to the team about her parents' story and why the community is so upset. These crimes were serious and it is important that we learn from them. The principal asked the students involved in the locker room incident to stay behind because we were going to discuss some community service options within our community (Haunting of the Halls, Ability Bridge and the Sentinel Showcase were 3 options that were going to be discussed). At that point, Wendy asked if these were the students involved, once they were confirmed the students were presented with books

and a writing assignment that they were told to send to send the response to information on the page. Dr. Bartz intervened and Wendy in particular became very upset. There was a tense exchange between the two and the principal dismissed the players who looked visibly upset.

- The principal reached out to students to meet and discuss community service and the meeting. Appt. 10/22 @ 7:30 am.
- Parents responded that they wanted to accompany their children.

- 10/22/2025 (7:30 am)- All players and family members met with the principal. They were upset about the conduct of the Holocaust Center after Lillian's presentation. They were not aware that their children were going to be identified and given assignments. They acknowledged that this incident in the locker room has been going on for a long time however there was no corroboration of the anti-semtetic remark and they were upset that this group can't identify and believes that their children said it. They received Dr. Bartz's email about returning after community service. The students have been doing CS with the parent group and will continue to do community service however the allegations, outrage and targets against them (online) are affecting them. The principal apologized to the families and heard their concerns. They requested a meeting with Dr. Bartz that afternoon to discuss next steps.
- [redacted]

- [redacted]

- 10/22/2025 (1:30 pm)- All players and family members met with the principal and Dr. Bartz. The incident from the day prior was reviewed. Families agreed to continue with the community service for the hazing but continued to deny the anti-semetic remark. They were also upset about the holocaust Center's interaction with the students. They were unaware that was going to happen and were upset about their children being outed. A plan was made to return to the team with continued community service as the game suspensions, education and continued plan for community service were in place. Dr. Bartz wanted to phase in the players however the families felt that the public scrutiny, stress and inability to prove anti-semetic remarks did not warrant further suspension of the team. [redacted] it was agreed upon by all parties.
  - [redacted]
- 10/28/2025- A football parent called to alert me to a post in FaceBook where someone asked anyone who had the players names and addressed to direct message him (he could pay $5,000). The parent said he forwarded this information to the police.
  - The principal called the SPD about the parent report. The officer who took the call stated that they would look for the report from the parent. If they could not locate it, they would send an officer to the school to take an official report.
  - Officer Amber DeCristofaro reported to SHS and took an official report about the FB post. The principal explained that she did not see it however has heard about it from a couple of sources.
- 10/29/2025- Officer DeCristofaro called the principal back to inform her that the SPD made contact with the person on FB. He lived on the East Side of Providence and stated that created the post because he was angry. The officer stated that he did not have a prior record nor does he have a criminal record. They did not deem the situation as a threat.
- [redacted]